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concl  
e) varying the exposure time of the sensor and iteratively repeating the previous steps until an optimum exposure time equal to the lower exposure time is found, among the ones set, for which the image presents a level of luminosity greater than the global threshold level.

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**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 have been amended and newly written claims 9-19 offered for consideration.

Claims 1-8 have been amended to place them more in consistence with U.S. patent claiming practice and to eliminate possible ambiguities in claim coverage. Newly written claims 10-17 mirror claims 1-8, except they cover the situation of an underexposure of the image. Independent claim 9 is a generic claim covering both overexposure and underexposure processing techniques. Claims 18 and 19 cover the detailed combination of claims 1-4 and 10-13, respectively.

Entry and consideration of amended claims 1-8 and newly written claims 9-19 is respectfully requested.

Having responded to all potential objections and rejections, it is submitted that claims 1-19 are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or

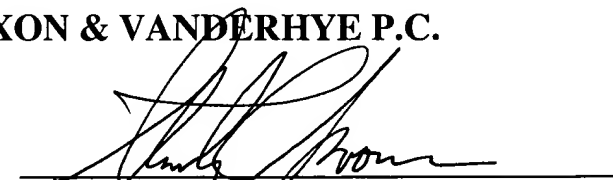
**CANINI**  
**Serial No. 09/362,995**

personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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